

2. (amended) The method of claim 1, wherein:
[the assigning step includes assigning a plurality of filters comprising a policy to the associated network management application.]
the associated network management applications have models of network entities and update the models upon receipt of the alarm notification.

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3. (amended) The method of claim [2] 1, wherein the at least one filter parameter includes a time for holding an alarm to filter out transient alarms before forwarding to the associated applications.[:

each filter comprises at least one filter parameter; and
the applying step comprises performing a logical AND of all parameters within one filter and performing a logical OR between all filters within one policy.]

4. (amended) The method of claim [3] 1, wherein:
the generating step includes specifying real-time values of each filter parameter in the alarm notification.

5. (amended) The method of claim [2] 1, wherein:
the assigning step includes storing a policy name and the associated applications in a database accessible to all servers.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the assigning step includes assigning a tag to each filter.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein:
the generating step includes specifying the tag for the filter which the alarm passed in the alarm notification.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the assigning step includes storing the filters in a database.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the generating step further includes specifying a user name in the alarm notification to enable the application which receives the alarm notification to notify a user having the specified user name.

10. (amended) The method of claim 1, wherein:
the assigning step includes scheduling the [assigning] applying of the assigned policy-based filters to occur at a specified time.

11. (amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
(d) following resolution of an alarm, forwarding an alarm clear message to the associated network management applications.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the assigning step includes assigning the same filters to multiple associated network management applications.

13. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the assigning step is performed by a user via a graphical user interface.

14. The method of claim 1, wherein:
the generating step includes generating an alarm notification which contains information about the device which generated the alarm.

15. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
one or more of the network management applications generating an alarm clear message and forwarding the same to the network management server which generated the alarm.

16. (amended) Apparatus for alarm notification comprising:
a database of policy-based filters;

a user interface for assigning policy-based filters to associated network management applications;

a processor and a memory device containing a program of instructions for the processor which instructions include:

means for receiving alarms from a plurality of network management servers;

means for applying the assigned policy-based filters to the alarms and generating an alarm notification for those alarms which pass the filters; and

means for forwarding the alarm notification to the associated network management applications;

wherein each filter comprises at least one filter parameter, and the applying step comprises performing a logical AND of all parameters within one filter and performing a logical OR between all filters within one policy.

Please insert the following new claims 17- 49:

--17. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein:

the associated network management applications have models of network entities and means for updating the models upon receipt of the alarm notification.

18. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the at least one filter parameter includes a time for holding an alarm to filter out transient alarms before forwarding to the associated applications.

19. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein:

the generating means includes means for specifying real-time values of each filter parameter in the alarm notification.

20. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein:

the assigning means includes means for storing a policy name and the associated applications in a database accessible to all servers.

21. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein:
the assigning means includes means for assigning a tag to each filter.
22. The apparatus of claim 21, wherein:
the generating means includes means for specifying the tag for the filter
which the alarm passed in the alarm notification.
23. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein:
the assigning means includes means for storing the filters in a database.
24. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein:
the generating means further includes means for specifying a user name in
the alarm notification and the application which receives the alarm notification
includes means to notify a user having the specified user name.
25. The apparatus of claim 16, wherein:
the assigning means includes means for scheduling the means for
applying to occur at a specified time.
26. A method of alarm notification comprising the steps of:
- (a) receiving alarms from multiple network management servers;
 - (b) assigning policy-based filters to associated network management applications; and
 - (c) applying the assigned policy-based filters to the alarms and for the alarms which pass the filters, generating an alarm notification and forwarding the same to the associated network management applications;
- wherein the assigning step includes scheduling the applying of the assigned policy-based filters to occur at a specified time.

27. The method of claim 26, wherein:

the associated network management applications have models of network entities and update the models upon receipt of the alarm notification.

28. The method of claim 26, wherein the at least one filter parameter includes a time for holding an alarm to filter out transient alarms before forwarding to the associated applications.

29. The method of claim 26, wherein:

the generating step includes specifying real-time values of each filter parameter in the alarm notification.

30. The method of claim 26, wherein:

the assigning step includes storing a policy name and the associated applications in a database accessible to all servers.

31. The method of claim 26, wherein:

the assigning step includes assigning a tag to each filter.

32. The method of claim 31, wherein:

the generating step includes specifying the tag for the filter which the alarm passed in the alarm notification.

33. The method of claim 26, wherein:

the assigning step includes storing the filters in a database.

34. The method of claim 26, wherein:

the generating step further includes specifying a user name in the alarm notification to enable the application which receives the alarm notification to notify a user having the specified user name.

35. The method of claim 26, further comprising:
(d) following resolution of an alarm, forwarding an alarm clear message to the at least one associated network management application.
36. The method of claim 26, wherein:
the assigning step includes assigning the same filters to multiple associated network management applications.
37. The method of claim 26, wherein:
the assigning step is performed by a user via a graphical user interface.
38. The method of claim 26, wherein:
the generating step includes generating an alarm notification which contains information about the device which generated the alarm.
39. The method of claim 26, further comprising:
one or more of the network management applications generating an alarm clear message and forwarding the same to the network management server which generated the alarm.
40. Apparatus for alarm notification comprising:
a database of policy-based filters;
a user interface for assigning policy-based filters to at least one associated network management applications;
a processor and a memory device containing a program of instructions for the processor which instructions include:
means for receiving alarms from a plurality of network management servers;
means for applying the assigned policy-based filters to the alarms and generating an alarm notification for those alarms which pass the filters;
and

means for forwarding the alarm notification to the at least one associated network management applications;

means for scheduling the means for applying to occur at a specified time period.

41. The method of claim 40, wherein:

the associated network management applications have models of network entities and update the models upon receipt of the alarm notification.

42. The method of claim 40, wherein the at least one filter parameter includes a time for holding an alarm to filter out transient alarms before forwarding to the associated applications.

43. The method of claim 40, wherein:

the generating means includes means for specifying real-time values of each filter parameter in the alarm notification.

44. The method of claim 40, wherein:

the assigning means includes means for storing a policy name and the associated applications in a database accessible to all servers.

45. The method of claim 40, wherein:

the assigning means includes means for assigning a tag to each filter.

46. The method of claim 45, wherein:

the generating means includes means for specifying the tag for the filter which the alarm passed in the alarm notification.

47. The method of claim 40, wherein:

the assigning means includes means for storing the filters in a database.